

Comparison of Civil Safety Orders for Washington State

Many Tribal Courts have similar civil and criminal court orders. Check with your local Tribal Court for details.

SEXUAL ASSAULT PROTECTION ORDER (SAPO) RCW 7.90		DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROTECTION ORDER (DVPO) RCW 26.50	
Who may obtain order?	A person who does not qualify for a domestic violence protection order, and is a victim of nonconsensual sexual conduct or nonconsensual sexual penetration, including a single incident, may petition for a civil order. Minors under age of 16 with parent or guardian. Court may appoint a guardian ad litem for either petitioner or respondent at no cost to either party.	Who may obtain order?	A person who fears violence from a “family or household member” (RCW 10.99.020), or who has been the victim of physical harm or fears imminent physical harm, or stalking from a “family or household member” (includes dating relationships). Petitioners 13 or older in a dating relationship with a Respondent 16 or older; minors aged 13-15 with a parent, guardian, guardian ad litem, or next friend.
What can order do?	Restrain contact directly or through third parties; exclude from home/work/school; “keep away”; other injunctive relief	What can order do?	Prohibit contact of any kind; remove abuser from shared residence; order temporary custody and visitation schedule; order abuser into treatment; surrender firearms
Cost to Petitioner	No filing or service fees.	Cost to Petitioner	No filing or service fees.
Consequences if order is knowingly violated	Mandatory arrest for violating restraint and exclusion provisions. Possible criminal charges or contempt. Class C felony if assault or reckless endangerment, otherwise Gross Misdemeanor.	Consequences if order is knowingly violated	Mandatory arrest for violating restraint and exclusion provisions. Possible criminal charges or contempt. Class C felony if assault or reckless endangerment, otherwise Gross Misdemeanor.
Maximum duration of order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary civil SAPO–14 days with service. • Full civil SAPO–Designated by court up to two years. 	Maximum duration of order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TPO–14 days with service. • TPO–24 days certified mail or with service by publication. • PO–Designated by court: 1 year or permanent.

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CRIMINAL NO-CONTACT ORDER (NCO) RCW 10.99	
Who may obtain order?	Incident must have been reported to the police. Criminal charges must be pending. Judge must consider issuance pending release of defendant from jail, at time of arraignment, and at sentencing.
What can order do?	Prohibit contact of any kind; prohibit defendant from knowingly coming within certain distance of specified locations. Order can also be a condition of a sentence.
Cost to Petitioner	None.
Consequences if order is knowingly violated	Mandatory arrest. Release pending trial may be revoked. Additional criminal or contempt charges may be filed. Felony if any assault, reckless endangerment or drive-by-shooting, otherwise Gross Misdemeanor.
Maximum duration of order	Until trial and sentencing are concluded. Post-sentencing provision lasts for possible maximum of sentence in Superior Court. In District or Municipal court, for a fixed period not to exceed 5 years.

RESTRAINING ORDER (RO) RCW 26.09, 26.10, 26.26	
Who may obtain order?	Petitioner who is married to respondent or has child in common.
What can order do?	Refrain from disturbing the peace, harming, molesting, assaulting or stalking; “stay away” from specified locations. May also contain financial restraints.
Cost to Petitioner	Same as dissolution. Filing fee waived if indigent per GR 34.
Consequences if order is knowingly violated	Mandatory arrest. Gross Misdemeanor. Possible criminal charges or contempt.
Maximum duration of order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TRO–14 days. • Preliminary injunction–dependency of action. • RO in final decree–permanent unless modified.

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ANTI-HARASSMENT ORDER (AHPO) RCW 10.14		VULNERABLE ADULT PROTECTION ORDER (VAPO) RCW 74.34	
Who may obtain order?	A person who does not qualify for a domestic violence protection order, and who has been seriously alarmed, annoyed or harassed by a conduct which serves no legitimate or lawful purpose. Parties generally are not married, have not lived together, and have no children in common.	Who may obtain order?	A vulnerable adult, or an interested person on behalf of a vulnerable adult, who has been abandoned, abused, subject to financial exploitation, or neglect or threat thereof. The Department of Social and Health Services may also obtain an order on behalf of a vulnerable adult.
What can order do?	Prohibit harassment and contact of any kind; restrain party from coming within a specific distance of home/work/school.	What can order do?	Restrain from physical harm; restrain from committing/threatening abandonment, personal exploitation, improper use of restraints, financial exploitation; no contact; exclude from dwelling.
Cost to Petitioner	No filing or service fees for stalking, sexual assault or domestic violence victims.	Cost to Petitioner	No service or filing fees.
Consequences if order is knowingly violated	Gross Misdemeanor. Discretionary arrest with possible criminal charges or contempt.	Consequences if order is knowingly violated	Mandatory arrest for violating restraint and exclusion provisions. Possible criminal charges or contempt. Class C felony if assault or reckless endangerment, otherwise Gross Misdemeanor.
Maximum duration of order	TAHO–14 days. TAHO–24 days certified mail or with service by publication. AHO–1 year or permanent.	Maximum duration of order	TVAPO–14 days with personal service. TVAPO–24 days certified mail or with service by publication. VAPO–Designated by court, for a fixed period not to exceed 5 years.

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STALKING PROTECTION ORDER (STPO) RCW 7.92.030		EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDER (ERPO) RCW TITLE 7, NEW SECTION	
Who may obtain order?	A person who does not qualify for a domestic violence protection order, and is a victim of any stalking conduct. Petitioner 16 may file (not required to have a guardian or next friend). Parent or guardian may petition on behalf of any minor, including minors 16 or 17. Interested person may petition on behalf of vulnerable adult. Court may appoint a guardian ad litem for either petitioner or respondent. If Respondent is 15 or younger and not emancipated, a guardian ad litem must be appointed.	Who may obtain order?	Family or household member; law enforcement officer or agency Allege in sworn affidavit that respondent poses a significant danger of causing personal injury to self or others by possessing firearm
What can order do?	No contact with petitioner by any means; prohibit surveillance; exclude from home/work/school; “stay away” from petitioner	What can order do?	Order respondent to surrender a firearm to law enforcement, surrender CLP; order respondent not to have weapon in custody or control or attempt to purchase firearm. Law enforcement officer serving order shall request respondent surrender weapons.
Cost to Petitioner	No filing or service fees.	Cost to Petitioner	No fees for filing or service
Consequences if order is knowingly violated	Mandatory arrest for violating restraint and exclusion provisions. Possible criminal charges or contempt. Class C felony if assault or reckless endangerment otherwise Gross Misdemeanor.	Consequences if order is knowingly violated	Gross misdemeanor; if two or more previous convictions Class C felony; prohibited from owning firearm for 5 years.
Maximum duration of Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSTPO: 14 days • STOP: fixed time period or permanent 	Maximum duration of Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TERPO: 14 days • ERPO: 1 year